

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the allowability of claims 6, 7 and 11–13 and the allowance of claims 20–22. For the purpose of expediting the prosecution of the present application, the rejected claims have been canceled and the allowable claims have been appropriately amended and/or rewritten in independent form to overcome the objections.

Allowable claims 6 and 7 were each multiple dependent from claims 1, 2 and 3. In order to maintain the subject matter of claims 6/1 and 7/1, claims 6 and 7 have each been rewritten in independent form incorporating all of the limitations of claim 1. New claims 23, 24, 25 and 26 have been added to claim the subject matter of allowable claims 6/2, 6/3, 7/2 and 7/3, respectively.

Claims 3 and 9–13 were objected to for informalities. Claims 11–13 have been appropriately amended herein to obviate the objections. Claims 3, 9 and 10 have been canceled.

Claims 1–5, 8–10 and 14–19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Applicant Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter “AAPA”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,517,213 to Bhatt et al. (hereinafter “Bhatt”). Claims 1–5, 8–10 and 14–19 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Appln. No. 09/730,188
Amdt. dated April 27, 2006
Reply to Final Office Action dated December 27, 2005

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same
to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 33152.

Respectfully submitted,
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